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           (c) 2008 European Patent Office
File 349: PCT FULLTEXT 1979-2008/ UB=20080710| UT=20080703
           (c) 2008 W PO Thomson
File 350: Der went WPIX 1963-2008/ UD=200843
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                NGS)()(PLAN OR PLANS) OR 529()(PLAN OR PLANS))
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              (Item 1 from file: 350)
DIALCO R) File 350: Derwent WPIX
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0012255965 - Drawing available
WPI ACC NO: 2002-196034/200225
XRPX Acc No: N2002-148889
Computerized method for illustrating and analyzing college savings plans, uses a database of education institution cost parameters, savings
plan parameters and tax implications to provide comparative analysis of a
prati parametricity variety of plans
Patent Assignee: MERRILL LYNCH & COINC (MERR-N)
Inventor: HEIGES A; HEIGES A R; KRON R; MONICAL S; MONICAL S E
Pat ent
                                      Application
Number
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                                      WO 2001US20040
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US 20040236652
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Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 2000620452 A 20000720; US
  2004751331 A 20040102
Patent Details
Number
                  Kind Lan
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71
                                     Dwa
                                           Filing Notes
WO 2002011014
                    A2 EN
                                       38
National Designated States, Original:
                                             CA IN JP MX
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Regional Designated States, Original: AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE

Continuation of application US

2000620452

IT LU MC NL PT SE TR US 20040236652 A1 EN

^{~~} Non-Patent Literature: Inventor search

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File
       2: I NSPEC 1898-2008/ Jun W8
          (c) 2008 Institution of Electrical Engineers
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        9: Business & Industry(R) Jul/1994-2008/Jul 10
          (c) 2008 The Gale Group
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File 148: Gale Group Trade & Industry DB 1976-2008/Jun 25
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(c) 1999 The Cale Group
File 275: Gale Group Computer DB(TM) 1983-2008/Jul 07
(c) 2008 The Gale Group
File 621: Gale Group New Prod. Annou. (R) 1985-2008/Jun 26
          (c) 2008 The Gale Group
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          (c) 2008 The Gale Group
File
      20: Dialog Global Reporter 1997-2008/Jul 16
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      35: Dissertation Abs Online 1861-2008/Nov
          (c) 2008 ProQuest Info&Learning
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      65: I nsi de Conferences 1993-2008/ Jul 16
          (c) 2008 BLDSC all rts. reserv
      99: Wison Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2008/Jun
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File 256: Tecl of oSource 82-2008/ Nov
          (c) 2008 Info. Sources Inc
File 996: News Room 2000-2003
          (c) 2008 Dialog
File 995: News Room 2004
          (c) 2008 Dialog
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S2(12N)S3

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Non-Patent Literature: Full Text
   Dialog files:
9, 15, 16, 20, 148, 160, 267, 268, 275, 610, 613, 621, 624, 625, 626, 634, 636, 810, 813, 996, 995
        9: Business & Industry(R) Jul/1994-2008/Jul 10
(c) 2008 The Gale Group
File
File
       15: ABI / Inform(R) 1971-2008 / Jul 16
          (c) 2008 ProQuest Info&Learning
       16: Gale Group PROMT(R) 1990-2008/Jul 08
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File
File
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           (c) 2008 Dialog
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           (c) 2008 The Gale Group
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File 613: PR Newswire 1999-2008/Jul 16
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              1999 Business Wire
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           (c) 1999 PR Newswire Association Inc
File 996: News Room 2000-2003
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File 995: News Room 2004
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^ 9/3, K/13 (Item 1 from file: 267) DIALOG(R) File 267: Finance & Banking Newsletters (c) 2008 Dialog. All rts. reserv.

04593666 Market Place Editorial Staff

Financial Planning DOCUMENT TYPE: NEWSLETTER Oct ober 1, 2002 PUBLISHER: SECURITIES DATA PUBLISHING

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH RECORD TYPE: FULLTEXT WORD COUNT: 1620

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TFXT.

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... Asset Class Illustrator, an online research tool financial advisers can use to view a historical analysis of how an index (or hypothetical portfolio of up to 15 indexes) would have behaved...

...GIFT FROM THE IRS

The LRS Web site is offering a basic estate and gift tax primer plus an overview of recent tax law changes. Topics covered include increased estate and gift tax applicable exclusion amounts, the reduction of the maximum estate and gift tax rate and the increased annual exclusion for gifts. The site also contains a frequently asked questions area and a page where some of the common estate and gift 'tax forms can be downloaded. www.irs.gov

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GE Private Asset Management has enhanced...theory and RELTs, Local market
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information dynamics and return on capital versus cost of capital analysis www.jklasser.com CONQUER FINANCIAL PLANNING John Wiley and Sons is offering Pattiner's Financial... ~~ Non-Patent Literature: Non-Full Text Dialog files: 2, 35, 65, 99, 139, 256, 474, 475, 583 File 2: I NSPEC 1898-2008/ Jun W8 (c) 2008 Institution of Electrical Engineers File. 35: Dissertation Abs Online 1861-2008/Nov (c) 2008 ProQuest Info&Learning Fi Le 65: Insi de Conferences 1993-2008/ Jul 16 (c) 2008 BLDSC all rts. reserv. File 99: W son Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2008/Jun (c) 2008 The HW Wilson Co. File 139: EconLit 1969-2008/ Jun (c) 2008 American Economic Association File 256: Tecl of oSource 82-2008/ Nov File 256: leci il osoul ce 82-2008 Nov (c) 2008 Info. Sources Inc File 474: New York Times Abs 1969-2008/Jul 16 (c) 2008 The New York Times File 475: Wall Street Journal Abs 1973-2008/Jul 16 (c) 2008 The New York Times File 583: Cale Group Global base (TM) 1986-2002/Dec 13 (c) 2002 The Cale Group ; Description
(QJALIF????() TUITION;)(PLAN OR PLANS)) OR (SECTION;)529)(3-N)(INTERNAL() REVENUE) OR (529 OR EDUCATION OR EDUCATIONAL OR-CALLEGE OR OLD REVENUE) OR (529 OR EDUCATION OR EDUCATIONAL OR-CALLEGE OR DEPARTS) (PLAN OR PLANS) OR SAVINSS)()(PLAN OR PLANS) OR 528()(PLAN OR PLANS) OR SAVINSS)() PLAN OR PLANS)
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^ 6/3, K/1 (Item 1 from file: 348)
DIALOG(R) File 348: EUROPEAN PATENTS
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01412449
TECHNIQUES FOR ILLUSTRATING AND ANALYSING COLLEGE
                                                                  SAVI NGS
VERFAHREN ZUR DARSTELLUNG UND ANALYSE VON AUSBILDUNGSSPARPLANEN
TECHNIQUES PERMETTANT D'ILLUSTRER ET D'ANALYSER DES PLANS D'EPARGNE AU
    NI VEAU POST- SECONDAI RE
PATENT ASSIGNEE:
  Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., (2362250), 250 Vesey Street, New York, NY 10281, (US), (Applicant designated States: all)
I NVENTOR:
HEIGES, Andrew, 4276 Milords Lane, Doylestown, PA 18901, (US)
KRCN, Robert, 1 Langfeldt Court, Franklin Park, NJ 08823, (US)
MCNICAL, Steven, E., 24 Posebay Court, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852, (US)
PATENT (CC, No, Kind, Date):
                                    WO 2002011014 020207
APPLICATION (CC, No, Date):
                                    EP 2001948641 010621; WO 2001US20040 010621
LANGUAGE (Publication, Procedural, Application): English; English; English
TECHNIQUES FOR ILLUSTRATING AND ANALYSING COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS
^ 6/3, K/3 (Item 2 from file: 349)
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TECHNIQUES FOR ILLUSTRATING AND ANALYZING
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TECHNIQUES PERMETTANT D'ILLUSTRER ET D'ANALYSER DES PLANS D'EPARGNE AU
    NI VEAU POST- SECONDAI RE
Patent Applicant/Assignee:
MERRILL LYNCH & COINC, 250 Vesey Street, New York, NY 10281, US, US
    (Residence), US (Nationality)
Inventor(s):
  HEIGES Andrew, 4276 Milords Lane, Doylestown, PA 18901, US,
KRON Robert, 1 Langfeldt Court, Franklin Park, NJ 08823, US,
  MONICAL Steven E. 24 Rosebay Court. Monmouth Junction. NJ 08852. US.
Legal Representative:
  BARTHOLOMEW Steven R (agent), Hopgood, Calimafde, Judlowe & Mondolino, 60
    East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10165, US,
Pat ent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):
Pat ent: WO 200211014 A2 20020207 (WO 0211014)
  Application: WO 2001US20040 20010621 (PCT/WO US0120040)
Priority Application: US 2000620452 20000720
Designated States:
(Protection type is "patent" unless otherwise stated - for applications
prior to 2004)
  CAIN JP MX
  (EP) AT BE CHICY DE DK ES FI FR GB GRIE IT LUMC NL PT SE TR
Publication Language: English
Filing Language: English
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Fulltext Word Count: 9107

TECHNIQUES FOR ILLUSTRATING AND ANALYZING COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS Fulltext Availability:

Detailed Description Claims

Or all lib

Detailed Description

Techniq-ues for I Hustrating and

Analyzing College Savings Plans

1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates to machine-executable techniques for performing financial calculations directed to college saving plans.'

2. Background Art

With the ever-increasing costs of tuition, room and board, many families

...educational purposes, the earnings portion is taxed as ordinary income, and a IO% penalty is assessed.

It is possible to combine a '529 plan with a UGWAV UTMA transfer, so

to enable a client to benefit fi-om..of numerical comparison between different college funding alternatives.

In view of the foregoing web site analysis, there is a need for a college funding calculator that considers the tax implications of each of a plurality of college saving plans. There is also a need for a calculator that provides a comparative analysis for these saving plans, so as to enable an investor to select a plan or...

... or her needs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Novel computerized methods are described for illustrating and analyzing educational saving plans by considering the tax implications of these plans. The

method'is for use with a ... received identifiers, retrieving the corresponding set of cost parameters from the computer-readable medium A comparative analysis of a 1.5 plurality of educational savings plans is generated by applying each retrieved set

of cost parameters to each of the educational plan parameter sets. This comparative analysis takes into consideration the tax implications of a plurality of educational sawings plan. The results of the comparative analysis are outputted on a display and/or printout so that an investor can determine which of the plurality of educational sawings plans best meets his or her needs.

Pursuant to a ffirther embodiment of the invention, the...

...and board for each of a plurality of educational institutions across the United States. The educational savings plans include at least one IRC (Internal Revenue Code) Section 529 Plan .

Optionally, the analysis implements a comparison of a specific asset allocation, and/or use of the Section 529 Plan asset allocation applied to all assets, so as to receive a comparison based upon tax advantages only. Moreover, the analysis may optionally consider a blended and/or progressive asset allocation based upon the age of...

.. or lump sum savings needed for each of the plurality of saving plans. This graphical comparison considers the tax implications of the saving plans. When selecting a saving plan that is a combination of various investment vehicles as, for example, 1 o a Section 529 Plan, a UJAW TJTM A Plan, and an Education IPA, the graphical comparison displays the most advantageous annual breakdown for saving money.

A ftu-ther optional feature permits...

... or estimated;

FIG 30 is a display screen capture that shows the results of the educational savings plan analysis generated by the output mechanism pursuant to

a preferred embodiment of the

... 32 is a display screen capture that shows a comparison among a plurality of different educational savings plans, taking into account additional limbs wings.

FIG. 33 is a display screen capture showing the results of the educational savings plan analysis in the form of a year-by-year table that displays the funds invested in the investor's assets, UGMA plan assets, 529 plan assets, and Educational IPA assets;

FIG 34 is a display screen capture that provides explanatory information to the investor about the results of the educational savings plan analysis; FIGs. 35 and 36 together comprise a flowchart setting forth an operational sequence for performing educational savings plan

accumulation and withdrawal calculations according to a preferred embodiment of the invention; FICs. 3.7...200, a corresponding set of cost parameters is

retrieved from the computer-readable medium. A comparative analysis of a

plurality of educational savings plans is generated by applying each retrieved set of cost parameters to each of the educational savings plan parameter sets (block 203). This comparative analysis takes into consideration the tax implications of a plurality of educational savings plan. The actual process of applying the retrieved cost parameters to the educational savings plan parameter sets is described in greater detail with reference to blocks 204-211. At

...fund each of the educational expense goals is calculated, using each of the plurality of college savings plans. After the comparative analysis of blocks 204-211 is complete, the results of the analysis are outputted on a display and/or printout so that an investor can determine which of the plurality of educational savings plans best meets his or her needs (block 213).

This comparative analysis may, but need not, be provided in the fonn of a table or graphical object that shows annual and/or periodic savings breakdowns for each of the plurality of educational savings plans.

Pursuant to a further embodiment of the invention, the educational institution identifiers stored on the...

...and board for each of a plurality of educational institutions across the United States.

The educational savings plans include at least one IRC (Internal Revenue Code)
Section 529 Plan . The comparative analysis optionally provides

Section 529 Man ine comparative analysis optionally provide for a comparison of a specific asset allocation, and/or use of the Section

comparison or a specific asset allocation, and/or use of the Section 529 Plan asset allocation applied to all assets, so as to receive a comparison based upon tax 1 0 advantages only. Moreover, the analysis may optionally be adapted to provide a blended and/or progressive asset allocation based upon...

...sum savings needed for each of 1.5 the plurality of saving plans. This graphical comparison considers the tax

implications of the saving plans. When selecting a saving plan that is a combination of various investment vehicles as, for example, a Section 529 Plan, a

UGWA/UTMA Plan, and an Education IPA, the graphical comparison displays the most advantageous annual breakdown for saving money. A ftwffier optional

feature is operable...are 2%

- FIG. 30 is a display screen capture that shows the results of the educational savings plan analysis generated by the output mechanism pursuant to a preferred embodiment of the invention. The graphical \cdot
- ... are eventually depleted.
 - 1 0 FIG 31 is a display screen capture that shows a **comparison** among a plurality of different **educational savings plans**, with reference to the
 - accumulation of additional monthly savings. In this example, to accumulate sufficient...
- ... 127 per month under a UGMA
 - 1 5 plan, \$149 per month under a Section 529 Plan, and \$132 per month if a combination of a Section 529 Plan and a UGWA is used.
 - FIG. 32 is a display screen capture that shows a comparison among a plurality of different educational savings plans, taking into account additional lump sum savings. If the investor placed assets into "coersonal" accounts...
- ...accoulit,tliisamountwouldbereducedto\$12,561. ForaSection529Plan,the amount is \$15,055, and for a UGMAV Section 529 Plan combination, the amount is \$12,561.
 - FIG 33 is a display screen capture showing the results of the educational savings plan analysis in the form of a year-by-year table that displays the investor's assets, UGMA plan assets, 529 plan assets, and Educational IRA assets. Savings details are provided in tabular form comparing assets in each of these plans on a year-by-year basis.
 FIG 34 is...
- ...screen capture that provides explanatory textual information to the investor about the results of the educational savings plan analysis.
 - FIQ 35 is a flowchart setting forth an operational sequence for performing educational savings plan accumulation and withdrawal calculations according to a preferred embodiment of the invention. The sequence commences...
- ...2008 does not need to be performed during 2008, unless the user requests a projected analysis at that time.
 - FIG. 36 is a flowchart setting forth an operational sequence for determining an educational savings plan solution according to a preferred embodiment of the invention. This procedure may be referred to
- Claim
 - 1 A computerized method for illustrating and analyzing college savings
 - plans, the method for use with a computer-readable medium on which are stored a plurality of educational institution identifiers and a plurality of educational savings plan parameter sets, each of respective educational institution identifiers being associated with a corresponding cost parameter...
- ...a), retrieving the corresponding cost parameter set from the computer-readable medium
 - c. generating a comparative analysis of a plurality of educational sayings plans by applying each of the retrieved cost...
- ... computerized method of claim 2 wherein the step of generating a comparative analysis further includes comparing each of a plurality of

educational savings plans with reference to one or more specific asset allocations.

4 The computerized method of claim 2 wherein the step of generating a comparative analysis further includes applying a Section 529 Plan asset allocation to all assets, so as to provide a comparison based upon tax

considerations.

 $5\ \mbox{A system}$ for illustrating and $\mbox{ analyzing }$ $\mbox{ college }$ $\mbox{ savings }$ $\mbox{ plans }$, the

system comprising:
(a) a computer-readable medium on which are stored a plurality of educational institution identifiers and a plurality of educational sawings plan parameter sets, each of respective educational institution identifiers being associated with a corresponding cost parameter.

...medium in response to the input
mechanism receiving an educational institution identifier; and
d. a comparative analysis generation mechanism for generating a
comparative analysis of a plurality of educational savings olans...

... educational savings plans.

6 The system of claim 5 wherein at least one of the educational savings plans is a Section 529 Plan developed pursuant to Section 529 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

7 The system of claim 5 wherein the comparative analysis generation mechanism compares each of a plurality of educational savings plans with reference to one or more specific asset allocations.

8 The system of claim 5 wherein the comparative analysis generation mechanism fitther includes applying a Section 529 Plan asset allocation to all assets, so as to provide a comparison based upon tax considerations.

^ 6/3, K/4 (Item 1 from file: 350)
DIALOG(R) File 350: Derwent WPIX
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0012255965 - Drawing available WPI ACC NO: 2002-196034/200225 XRPX Acc No: N2002-148889

Computerized method for illustrating and analyzing college savings plans, uses a database of education institution cost parameters, savings plan parameters and tax implications to provide comparative analysis of a variety of plans

Patent Assignee: MERRILL LYNCH & COINC (MERR-N) Inventor: HEIGES A; HEIGES A R; KRON R; MONICAL S; MONICAL S E

Patent Family (2 patents, 24 countries)

Pat ent Appl i cat i on Number Ki nd Dat e Number Ki nd Dat e Updat e WO 2001US20040 WO 2002011014 A2 20020207 Α 20010621 200225 US 2000620452 US 2004751331 20000720 US 20040236652 **A**1 20041125 200478 E 20040102 Α

Priority Applications (no., kind, date): US 2000620452 A 20000720; US 2004751331 A 20040102

Patent Details Number Kind Lan Pg Dwg Filing Notes WO 2002011014 A2 EN 71 38 National Designated States, Original: CAIN JP MX

Regional Designated States, Original: AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR CB CR IE

IT LU MC NL PT SE TR US 20040236652 A1 EN 2000620452

Continuation of application US

Computerized method for illustrating and analyzing college savings plans, uses a database of education institution cost parameters, savings plan parameters and tax implications to provide comparative analysis of a variety of clans

Original Titles:

Techniques for illustrating and analyzing college savings plans

... TECHNIQUES FOR ILLUSTRATING AND ANALYZING COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

Alerting Abstract ...with associated costs for tuition, board, etc., and also parameter sets for a variety of educational savings plans. A potential investor at a user system (115,117) can specify an education institution identifier and will subsequently receive a comparative analysis of the savings plans with respect to the educational institution costs, taking into account tax...

DESCRIPTION - An INDEPENDENT CLAIM is also included for a system for

illustrating and analyzing college savings plans.

... USE - For illustrating and analyzing college savings plans, so that an investor can determine which of a plurality of plans best meets his

...ADVANTAGE - By providing a **comparative** analysis of a number of **educational** savings plans and also tax implications in respect of an educational institution costs, the method enables an...

...is a hardware block diagramillustrating an operational environment for a method of illustrating and analyzing college savings plans.

Original Publication Data by Authority

Ar gent i na

Assignee name & address:

Original Abstracts:

Novel computerized methods are described for illustrating and analyzing educational saving plans by considering the tax implications of these plans. The method is for use with a computer-readable medium on...

...plan parameter sets specifies one or more characteristics of a corresponding educational savings plan. The method includes the steps of receiving at least one educational institution identifier and, for each of

...parameter sets. This comparative analysis takes into consideration the tax implications of a plurality of educational savings plan. The results of the comparative analysis are outputted on a display and/or printout so that an investor can determine which of the plurality of educational savings plans best meets his or her needs.

specifying at least one of room board, and...

a), retrieving the corresponding cost parameter set from the computer-readable medium c. generating a comparative analysis of a plurality of educational savings plans by applying each of the retrieved cost parameter sets of step (b) to each of the plurality of

educational savings plan parameters; wherein the comparative analysis takes into account one or more taxation implications for at least one of the educational savings plans.